

PBCDF celebrates one year of disposal operations

Courtesy of the Pine Bluff Chemical Disposal Facility Public Affairs Office

The Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (PBCDF) celebrated one year of successful chemical weapons disposal operations March 29.

"This past year I have had the privilege of working with an outstanding team of women and men, each of whom has contributed to making PBCDF's first year of disposal operations safe, environmentally sound and productive," said Randy Long, PBCDF site project manager.

To date, PBCDF has processed 34,207 rockets drained of the nerve agent GB and 352,872 pounds of the nerve agent GB. PBCDF processed its first two rockets drained of the nerve agent GB on this day last year.

Another notable achievement for PBCDF, during its first year of operations, was its employees surpassing seven million safe work hours on January 27.

"I am very proud of our employees. Their commitment to the mission of safely disposing of these chemical weapons makes our community a safer place for our family members and friends. Their first year has set a great standard to follow," said David Reber, project general manager, for Washington Demilitarization Company, LLC.

Twelve percent of the United States Army's original chemical stockpile has been safely stored at Pine Bluff Arsenal for more than 60 years. The stockpile consists of GB (nerve agent), VX (nerve agent) rockets, VX land mines and HD/HT (mustard blister agents) bulk containers. The GB M55 rockets are currently being disposed of in the first disposal campaign, followed by the VX rockets, the VX landmines and finally the HD/HT bulk containers.